in Orissa is primarily induced by degradation and fragmentation of elephant habitats and blockage of their normal movement routes on account of deforestation, encroachments, grazing, fire mining, irrigation projects and other human activities. Most of the human deaths are due to accidental encounters of people with elephants.

(c) There is only one Project Elephant in the country under which three Elephant Reserves, *viz.* Mayurbhanj, Mahanadi and Sambalpur, have been set up in Orissa. Government of India provides financial support to Orissa under Project Elephant for improvement of habitat and corridors of elephants, undertaking anti-depredation measures to protect crops, human life and property and payment of ex-gratia relief. During 2002-03, an amount of Rs. 108.39 lakh was released to the State Government under Project Elephant which included Rs. 39.5 lakh for the purpose of ex-gratia relief and Rs. 8 lakh for antidepredation works.

New Rail Lines in Punjab

*696. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new rail lines in the State of Punjab during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) The details of on-going new line projects falling partly/fully in Punjab are as under :—

S. No.	Project	Km
1.	Abohar-Fazilka	42.72
2.	Chandigarh-Ludhiana	95.0
3.	Nangal Dam-Talwara and taking over siding of Mukerian-Talwara	112.9
4.	Tarn Taran-Goindwal	21.0

The final location surveys of the above projects have been completed and the works are in various stages of progress. Besides the above, the work of construction of new line between Beas-Dera Baba Jaimal Singh (5 km) is also an on going work and the work would be taken up after the agreement is signed and

land made available by the Dera Authorities. In Punjab, Chandigarh-Morinda (45 km) is likely to be completed during the Tenth Five Year Plan period. The works are being progressed as per availability of resources.

Agriculture Seeds

†699. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per hectare production of wheat, rice, oilseeds, potato, apple, litchi and other fruits and pulses in Uttaranchal;

(b) whether improved seeds have been developed in the fields of agricultural research in that State since its creation; and

(c) if so, the names of seeds developed and the estimated rate of production in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH) : (a) The average per hectare production of wheat, rice, pulses, oilseeds, potato, apple, litchi and other citrus fruits in Uttaranchal is given below :—

Crop	Per Hectare Production (Kgs.)
Wheat	1909
Rice	2022
Pulses	700
Oilseeds	608
Potato	19171
Apple	1600
Litchi	1000
Other Citrus Fruits	3600

(b) and (c) No new variety of seeds has been developed for Uttaranchal State since creation of the State. However, the names of varieties of different crops, and their respective yield rates, recommended/released for Uttaranchal are given in the Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.